

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9963

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0036

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PGOV IS JO

SUBJ: WEST BANK RESIDENTS' ACQUISITION OF ISRAELI NATIONALITY

REF TEL AVIV 61

1. CONGEN ADDS TO REFTEL FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING
ACQUISITION OF ISRAEL CITIZENSHIP BY A WEST BANK RESIDENT:

(A) ALL RESIDENTS OF EAST JERUSALEM, INCLUDING WEST BANKERS,
ARE ENTITLED TO ISRAEL CITIZENSHIP BY VIRTUE OF KENSSET

APPROVAL ON JUNE 28, 1967, OF A LAW EXTENDING ISRAELI
LAW AND ADMINISTRATION TO THE CITY OF EAST JERUSALEM.
THE AREA INVOLVED INCLUDES THE OLD CITY, SHEIKH JARRAH,
JERUSALEM AIRPORT, SHUFAT, AND MOUNT SCOPUS, AND EXTENDS
AS FAR SOUTH AS THE EDGE OF BETHLEHEM. UNDER THE LAW ALL
RESIDENTS OF THE AREA ARE ENTITLED TO ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP
UPON REQUEST, ALTHOUGH THE REGULATIONS ARE BENT SOME-
WHAT FROM THE NORM IN ISRAEL IN ORDER TO PERMIT WEST BANKERS
TO RETAIN THEIR JORDANIAN NATIONALITY IF THEY DESIRE, AND TO
PERMIT CHILDREN BORN IN EAST JERUSALEM TO BE EXEMPT FROM A
REQUIREMENT THAT THEY ACQUIRE ISRAELI NATIONALITY.

(B) WEST BANKERS RESIDENT IN EAST JERUSALEM ARE ISSUED

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AN IDENTITY CARD DIFFERENT FROM THAT ISSUED OTHER RESIDENTS
OF THE WEST BANK. PRESUMABLY, A RESETTLED PALESTINIAN WHO
SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING RESIDENT STATUS IN EAST
JERUSALEM WOULD BE COVERED BY THE ABOVE MENTIONED
REGULATION. VERY FEW WEST BANKERS RESIDENT IN EAST
JERUSALEM HAVE ACCEPTED THE OFFER OF ISRAELI CITIZEN-
SHIP--CONGEN KNOWS OF ONLY ONE.

(C) WHILE ISRAELI NATIONALITY IS DENIED OTHER RESIDENTS OF THE WEST BANK, ISRAELI LAISSEZ PASSER ARE OFFERED TO ANYONE BEARING A WEST BANK IDENTITY CARD. THIS SERVICE IS UTILIZED BY ALL WEST BANKERS TRAVELING VIA LOD AIRPORT, SINCE THEY WISH TO AVOID HAVING AN ISRAELI STAMP IN ANY OTHER PASSPORT THEY MAY BEAR.

2. CONGEN PRESUMES THAT CHILDREN BORN IN ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE WEST BANK ACQUIRE NATIONALITY THROUGH THEIR PARENTS, AND NOT THROUGH THEIR PLACE OF BIRTH.

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